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TROMAS. PRILIP. of the mercentile nound of Thomas end Devonshire of Stanges. Stanges, Stanges, Support, Wales. He is the Fliest encestor of this family in America of whom there is any legal or commentary proof. The coase of arms, borns by Philip Thomas upon his gold headed cane and service of silver, served to point out the true affiliation with the arms of Sir Rhys ap Thomas of Carew.

He emigrated from Bristol, England in 1651 to the Province of Maryland, only seventeen years after the first colonists. The earliest land patent in his name was dated, the 19th of February, 1651/2 and located on the west side of the Chasapeaks Bay "in ambideration that he bath in the year 1651 transported himself, Sarah his wife and Philip, Sarah and Elizabeth his children into this province". A man of character and resolution, the emigrant soon sequired influence smong his neighbors and affiliating himself with the Suritan party, he became one of its leaders.

When Cromwell was supreme in England, sympathicers in aryland, broke out in open rebellion and Philip Thomas holding a military commission as lieutenent was of their muster in Ann Arundal county, kn. The 20th of March, 1656/7, Lieutenant Philip Thomas was appointed one of the six High Commissioners of the Provincial Court to govern the colony under the Lord Protector Crommell. It seems possible from his will that he became a quaker. George Fox in 1672 held meetings a the home of Philip Thomas on west River, MA.

at the family west, "Lebenon", West River, MA.

Dipucate

Chilhem Castle in kent, Master of the Holls in the reign of King Charles the First.

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Copy of will of Richard Thomas- found in Court House in

Paris, Lamar County, Texas.

" Will of Richard Thomas, Republic of Texas, June 23, 1840.

I ,Richard Thomas, of County of Red River, Republic of Texas., (after lenghty preamble) "give and bequeath to my son

John Themas.-D. Thomas, who lives with and takes care of me, the following properties. - The plantation and 440 Acres of land on which I now live, and all singular appertenances there to belonging; (etc.) The said John D. Thomas binds himself to payall of my past debts and mantain and support in a decent manner his Mother for and during her life, and to enable him to so do I place under his sole control all of my estate both real and personal from the the date herewith until death. I give unto my son William Thomas, 420 Acres of land, part of my head right, (names specified slavesetc. etc.)

I give and bequeath to my son George Thomas 420 Acres of land ,part of my head right, (specified slaves etc. as he named for William Thomas.)

To my daughter Emily Williamson and her heirs, (names her interesta)

To my daughter Sarah Nelson, (names her interests)

To my daughter Lucy Nelsen--Allen , (names her interests)

To my daughter Elizabeth Draper, dec. her children's share to remain in care of my son John D. Thomas to be applied for their use.

This will given into the hands of Geo. W. Wright for safe keeping.

Same date, will of Mary Thomas wife of Richard Thomas, approves will of her husband Richard Thomas. Witt. Geo. W. Wright ,Claiborne Chisum & Atlas Dodd.

Will of Richard Thomas, probated, Feb. 1843, John D. Thomas, Ex. made his final report, April, 28, 1845.

Allof these papers in Court House, I copied only the main parts.

But I saw the letter from George Thomas accomolodging receiving his part. Also a bame looking like "Judah" Drapee, I decided was father of Elizabeth Draper, dec.

From Texas Land office, received by ne, Jan. 31, 1946-

ile 25- Red River 2nd Class, discloses that - Richard Thomas, was ntitled to Isoo & 80 Acres. of land, by virtue of Certificate 281 at. 4, 1838, he having proved heresided in Republic three years.

and performed all of the duties required of him as a citizen. Dated July,5,184I. Ceptificate No. e8I states that he arrived Dec. I2, I836, at which time he was a married man. This tract is situated in Lamae County and was papented to Richard Thomas on Dec. 9, I84I.

John D. Thomas was father of my Mother, Martha (Mattie) Thomas Henderson.

The D. stood for Dawson. My Mother married at sixteen, shortly after the Civil War, Travis Clack Henderson.

I was the 7th child and she died when I was a baby.

I was named for her younger sister Fanny Thomas. I was told that she was named for her aunt Fanny Thomas, wife of George Henry Thomas.

Also my Aunt, Ella Thomas, told me to never mention the subject, as Uncle George was a Yankee. My Grand Father John Dawson Thomas died dureing the war, and his Father Richard Thomas, died 1843 so they never realized that George H. Thomas was estranged from his people.

As you see, in will wife of Richard is called Mary Thomas.

I feel sure that Elizabeth Rochelle Thomas must have been a sister of

Mary-wife of Richard. And according to statements made in Insurance application papers Richard & Mary died as consequence of accident.

I am anxious to straighten this tangle, as I believe the confussion soured because the family were ashamed of his decission to stay with the tion. I am hoping that I can find the answer thru the Sisters lineage.

Fanny Henderson Russ.

(nat Jurner Insurrection 1831)

From kecords in Court House of Paris, Lamar Co. Texas.

Formerly Red River C. Republic of Texas.

A copy of a letter written to me Jan. 3I- 1946, now in my Poss. Commissioner of the General Land Office, Austin Texas. File 25, Red River 2nd. Class, discloses that Richard Thomas was entitled to "1200 & 80 Acres of land by virtue of Certificate No. 28I dated 4th. day of Oct. 1838. Granted to him by the Board of Land Com. for the County of Red River, he having proved - -that he has resided in the Republic, three years, and performed all the duties required of him as a citizen." This certificate is dated July 5,1841 Certificate No. 28I above referred to, states that he arrived Dec. 12, 1856, at which time he was a married man. Our record give no further personal data. This tract is situated in Larar Co., and was patented to Richard Thomas on Dec. 9, 1841 Sincerely yours, Bascom Giles, Comm

Will of Richard Thomas, Republic of Texas, June 23, 1840. I, kichard Thomas, of County of Red River, Republic of Texas (After preamble) "give and bequeath to my son John D.Thomas who lives with and takes care of me, the following property the plantation and 440 Acres of land on which I now live and all singular appertenances thereto belonging; etc etc. The said John D. Thomas binds himself to pay all of my past debts and maintain and support in a decent manner his Mother for and during her life, and to enable him so to do, I place under his sole control all of my estate both real and personal from the date herewith until death.

I give unto my son William Thomas 420 Acres of land ,part of my headright, (specified slaves) etc. etc.

I give and bequeath to my son George Thomas 420 A. of land (part of my headright) and (specified slaves etc.)

To my daughter Emily Williamson and her heirs , etc. etc.

To my daughter Sarah Nelson, etc.

To my daughter Lucy Allen etc.

To my daughter Elizabeth Draper, dec.-children te8--share to remain in care of my son John D. Thomas to be applied for their use.

This will given into the hands of Geo. W. Wright for safe keeping.

Same date - Will of Mary Thomas wife of Richard Thomas. Will of her husband approved. Witnesses, Geo. W. Wright, Claiborne Chisum, - Atlas Dodd.

Will of Richard Thomas probated Feb. 1843, John D. Thomas exutor of Richard Thomas & Mary Thomas.

John D. Thomas, Ex. made his final report, April, 28, 1845.